ACTION
is assigned to

EMBAJADA DE GUATEMALA

No. 945

El Encargado de Negocios ad interim de Guatemala saluda muy atentamente a Su Excelencia el Señor Secretario de Estado y tiene el honor de transmitirle, para su información, el texto de un mensaje dirigido el día de ayer por el Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores de Guatemala al Señor Presidente del Consejo de Seguridad de la Organización de las Naciones Unidas, denunciando la agresión exterior de que está siendo víctima Guatemala.

El Encargado de Negocios ad interim de Guatemala aprovecha la oportunidad para renovar al Excelentísimo Señor Secretario de Estado las seguridades de su más distinguida consideración.

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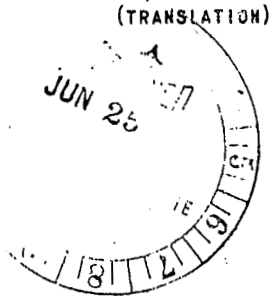

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Spanish

EMBASSY OF GUATEMALA

No. 845

The Chargé d'Affaires ad interim of Guatemala presents his compliments to His Excellency the Secretary of State and has the honor to enclose, for his information, the text of a message sent yesterday by the Minister of Foreign Relations of Guatemala to the President of the Security Council of the United Nations Organization, denouncing the foreign aggression of which Guatemala is the victim.

The Chargé d'Affaires ad interim of Guatemala avails himself of the opportunity to renew to His Excellency the Secretary of State the assurances of his most distinguished consideration.

Washington, D.C.
June 19, 1954
/Initialed/ M. L. L.

Embassy of Guatemala
Washington, D. C.

MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF GUATEMALA TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Guatemala, 18 June 1954

To the President of the Security Council
Organization of the United Nations
New York.

On 1 April 1953, the Government of Guatemala denounced before the United Nations Organization the intention of some political groups to intervene in the internal affairs of Guatemala. This document contained a relation of events evidently proving that intention. Today, developments of such gravity have occurred that my Government has to resort to the Security Council of the Organization in order to prevent the disturbance of peace in the American Continent.

Since the recent arrival of arms for the Guatemalan Armed Forces, official spokesmen of the United States of America have made tendencious and false statements to the effect that these elements of defense acquired by my Government, in the exercise of its sovereign rights, would be used for an aggresion against neighboring Central American countries. These statements were and are completely false. Guatemala has repeatedly stated that she did not have and does not have any aggressive purposes.

The facts have demonstrated that while the Government of Guatemala has followed an inalterable policy of peaceful coexistence and of non-intervention, other governments observe an unfriendly and aggressive policy towards our country.

The first reaction to the United States official instigations came from the Government of Nicaragua which in unilateral manner announced severance of diplomatic relations with Guatemala on 19 May 1954. The reasons stated by Nicaragua to take this step were not only false but, had they been true, they certainly would have not merited alteration of international relations.

On 26 May 1954, unidentified planes from Honduras and Nicaragua violated Guatemalan territory flying over Guatemala City and dropping propaganda inciting the Armed Forces of Guatemala to revolt against the legal and constitutional Government of our country.

On 7 June 1954, new incursions by these planes occurred, dropping similar propaganda over different sections of our territory. On 14 June, the planes did not only drop propaganda. This time arms and ammunition were dropped by parachute over the zone of Tiquisate, headquarters of the Compañia Agricola de Guatemala, a subsidiary of the United Fruit Company. Apparently these arms were manufactured in the Soviet Union and the United States.

The Government of Guatemala, having reliable information that expeditionary forces in Honduras were getting ready to invade Guatemalan territory, requested the Government of Honduras through normal diplomatic channels to concentrate and control these armed groups. The Government of Honduras replied giving its assurances that these armed groups would be concentrated, but actually no measures were taken in that respect as can be easily proven by reading the Honduran press.

On 15 June 1954, the invading planes violated again our territory flying over the zone of Tiquisate and other regions of the country. On 16 June, there was a new incursion, apparently for the purposes of recognisance, over various areas of the country. On 17 June I sent a message to the Foreign Minister of Honduras

emphasizing the fact that in spite of the assurances of his Government the concentration of expeditionary forces ready to invade Guatemala had not been carried out. We reiterated our plea to this respect and also asked that these forces be disarmed in accordance with International Law and the existing international treaties. On the same date, the diplomatic representative of Guatemala in Honduras delivered to the Government of that country a strong note of protest because of the evident tolerance of the Government of Honduras in permitting the expeditionary forces to get ready to invade Guatemala. We reiterated our desires to maintain the most cordial relations with Honduras and to prevent the disturbance of the peace in Central America. But in spite of our repeated requests made in a friendly manner, the expeditionary forces that we had denounced captured the frontier outpost of El Florido, in the department of Chiquimula, and later advanced about fifteen kilometers into Guatemalan territory. These forces are in our territory without our ordering that they be repulsed, with the precise purpose in mind of avoiding this time any other false claims of border incidents.

This morning, planes from Honduras and Nicaragua have attacked the country dropping explosive bombs on fuel deposits in Port San Jose and on the city of Retalhuleu. At 4 p.m. today, planes of U.S. manufacture, type P-47, also coming from those two countries, attacked the City of Guatemala, strafing Government buildings, homes and also military bases. Those same planes later attacked the Military Base at Port San Jose.

Aggressor governments and international provocateurs have dared to commit such outrages and acts of aggression taking advantage of the fact that Guatemala observes a friendly policy of peaceful coexistence, and because, due to the policy of blockade that has been applied to Guatemala by leading groups in the United States of North America, our country does not have an air force which would have enabled her to repel the repeated acts of aggression.

These same governments, no doubt, must have a feeling of impunity by their having recently concluded military agreements with the United States of North America, while at the same time the Government of Honduras was refusing an agreement of friendship and non-aggression that, as evidence of its cordial and friendly intentions, was offered by my Chancellery to that of Honduras.

The acts we denounce make it evident that a manifest aggression exists from the Governments of Honduras and Nicaragua, initiated by the monopolistic interests affected by the progressive policy of my Government. Guatemala has only defended her sovereingty, and has issued and applied laws which she has believed to be necessary to promote the social and economic progress of the country. For this reason the international crime that is being committed against Guatemala is that much more unforgivable.

In view of what has been stated, I request Your Excellency to please urgently call a meeting of the Security Council in order that, according to articles 34, 35 and 39 of the Charter of the United Nations, it proceeds to adopt the necessary measures to prevent that international security be disturbed in this area of Central America, and also to prevent that aggression against Guatemala should prevail.

I wish to express to Your Excellency in the most cordial manner, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

Guillermo Toriello
Minister of Foreign Affairs